(b) if so, what are the long-term strategies proposed to be made to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Yes, Sir. However, as per the estimates available from labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation, annual average growth rate of labour force during 1994— 2000 was 1.03% as against 0.98% growth rate of employment.

(b) The approach to Tenth Plan focusses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of hte monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which discourage growth of employment.

Employment targets

3051. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has achieved the employment projected by 2002 as per the Ninth Plan projections;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the States that have higher incidence of unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a)The Planning Commission had projected annual employment growth on Usual Principal & Subsidiary Status (UPSS) basis at 2.44% during the Ninth Plan (1997-02) period. As per the estimates available from labour force surveys carried out by National Sample Survey Organisation, employment had grown at the rate of approximately 0.98% per annum during 1994—2000.

(a) Main reason was that during this period economy did not grow as expected and there was a decline in the job creating capacity of the growth observed in the economy.

(b) State-wise, estimated unemployment rates on usual status basis during 1999-2000 are given in the enclosed Statement.